

1/540529 #2  
JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 24 JUN 2005

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 07057.0113

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. national phase of )  
PCT/IB2003/006163 )  
Inventor: Kiyohito MURATA ) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned ) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: June 24, 2005 )  
For: EXHAUST SYSTEM )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

English abstracts of the non-English documents are enclosed with the exception of FR 2 698 909. In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of FR 2 698 909, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Patent Office in

the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing this document and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

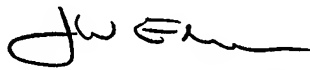
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 24, 2005

By:   
James W. Edmondson  
Reg. No. 33,871

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b> Application Number: Not Yet Assigned Filing Date: June 24, 2005 First Named Inventor: Kiyohito MURATA Art Unit: Not Assigned Examiner Name: Not Assigned Attorney Docket Number: 07057.0113	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)					
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 10-234194	09-02-1998	K. Amada et al.		Abstract
		JP 2000-352313	12-19-2000	M. Munekiyo		Abstract
		JP 06-002539	01-11-1994	M. Itakura		Abstract
		JP 11-036981	02-09-1999	K. Shinohara et al.		Abstract
		JP 11-122960	04-30-1999	K. Amada et al.		Abstract
		JP 06-081639	03-22-1994	H. Abe		Abstract
		FR 2 698 909 A1	06-10-1994	Renault		No
		JP 2000-18095	01-18-2000	M. Munekiyo		Abstract
		JP 2000-352313	12-19-2000	M. Munekiyo		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		PCT International Search Report for PCT/IB03/06163 dated May 3, 2004.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.